

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending. Claims 1-8, 17, 20, 26, and 28 have been amended and new claims 31-34 have been added to recite additional features of the embodiments disclosed in the specification. Also, the title has been changed to one more descriptive of the invention as claimed.

In the Office Action, claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) for being anticipated by the Dally patent publication. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites a controller and an equalizer. The controller automatically determines a multi-tap equalization setting based on the loss detected in a link coupled to a transmitter. An equalizer then generates a pulse signal based on the multi-tap equalization setting. More specifically, the equalizer generates “a pulse signal to equalize transmission of data on the link based on the multi-tap equalization setting, the pulse signal having a plurality of levels that respectively correspond to at least one pre-cursor and at least one post-cursor of a main pulse, the transmission of said data to be equalized based on the at least one pre-cursor and at least one post-cursor.” (See, for example, page 7 with references to Figure 3 for support).

The Dally publication discloses detecting the loss in a transmission line and then equalizing the transmission of data based on the detected loss. This equalization involves determining weight values that correspond to tap coefficients of an FIR filter. However, the Dally publication does not disclose that its equalizer generates a pulse signal of the type recited in claim 1.

Instead of the claimed pulse signal, Dally delays an input bit D_1 using successive delay elements 28. The input bit and delay outputs of elements 28 are then input into a 5-to-32 decoder 32, which compares the input bit to each of the outputs. The result of the

comparison is input into a look-up table, which outputs driver strength control signal for controlling equalization. (See Paragraphs [0041] - [0043] with reference to Figures 8 and 9).

Thus, unlike claim 1, the Dally publication does not disclose an equalizer which generates “a pulse signal to equalize transmission of data on the link based on the multi-tap equalization setting, the pulse signal having a plurality of levels that respectively correspond to at least one pre-cursor and at least one post-cursor of a main pulse, the transmission of said data to be equalized based on the at least one pre-cursor and at least one post-cursor.”

Because the Dally publication does not disclose all the features of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that the Dally publication does not anticipate this claim or any of its dependent claims.

Claim 5 recites a look-up table to store a plurality of predetermined tap coefficient settings that correspond to a respective number of link loss values, the control circuit to search the look-up table for a tap coefficient setting that corresponds to the detected link loss, where “the levels in the pulse signal respectively corresponding to tap coefficients included in the setting produced by the search.” The Dally publication does not disclose these quoted features of claim 5.

Claims 8, 20, and 28 recite features similar to those that patentably distinguish claim 1 from the Dally publication. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 8, 20, 26, and their dependent claims are allowable.

Claims 17 and 26 recite features similar to those that patentably distinguish dependent claim 5 from the Dally publication. Accordingly, it is submitted that these claims are also allowable apart from their dependency from base claims 8 and 20.

New claims 31-34 have been added to the application.

Claim 31 recites that “one or more levels of the pulse signal that correspond to the at least one pre-cursor have a first polarity and one or more levels of the pulse signal that correspond to the at least one post-cursor have a second polarity opposite to the first polarity.” (See, for example, page 7 of the specification for support). The Dally publication does not disclose these features.

Claim 32 recites that “the one or more levels of the pulse signal that having the second polarity substantially negate a first-polarity component of the main pulse.” (See, for example, page 7 of the specification for support). The Dally publication does not disclose these features.

Claim 33 recites that “one or more levels of the pulse signal that correspond to the at least one pre-cursor reduce rise-time delay in data transmission noise.” (See, for example, page 7 of the specification for support). The Dally publication does not disclose these features.

Claim 34 recites that “said data is to be transmitted between the transmitter and another circuit, the transmitter and other circuit residing on a same circuit board.” The Dally publication does not disclose these features when taken as a whole with the features of base claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 16-0607 and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Ntiros', written over a horizontal line.

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